(26) Strike all of Subsection 618.5 and insert new Subsection 618.5 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the subsection so stricken, and to read as follows:

"SUBSECTON 618.5. STAIRWAY GUARDS AND HANDRAILS: UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS SUBTITLE, ALL STAIRWAYS SERVING LEVELS MORE THAN THIRTY-SIX INCHES (36") APART IN VERTICAL HEIGHT SHALL HAVE CONTINUOUS GUARDS AND HANDRAILS ON BOTH SIDES; AND IN ADDITION THERETO, STAIRWAYS REQUIRED TO BE MORE THAN EIGHTY-EIGHT INCHES (88") IN WIDTH SHALL HAVE INTERMEDIATE HANDRAILS DIVIDING THE STAIRWAY INTO PORTIONS NOT MORE THAN EIGHTY-EIGHT INCHES (88") WIDE."

(27) Strike lines 1 through 7, inclusive, of the opening paragraph of Section 725.0 and insert the following in lieu thereof, and to read as follows:

"SECTION 725.0. BEARING VALUE OF SOILS.
ALL APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
NEW BUILDINGS, EXCLUSIVE OF ONE AND TWO FAMILY
DWELLINGS, AND FOR THE ALTERATION OF A PERMANENT
STRUCTURE WHICH REQUIRE CHANGES IN FOUNDATION LOADS
AND DISTRIBUTION, SHALL SHOW ON THE PLANS THE BEARING
VALUE ASSUMED IN THE DESIGN. WHERE THE DESIGN EEARING
VALUE EXCEEDS THE PRESUMPTIVE VALUES SHOWN IN TABLE
15, OR WHEN REQUIRED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL, THE
APPLICATION SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT
DESCRIBING THE SOIL IN THE ULTIMATE BEARING STRATA,
INCLUDING SUFFICIENT RECORDS AND DATA TO ESTABLISH ITS
CHARACTER, NATURE AND LOAD—BEARING CAPACITY. SUCH
RECORDS SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEER, REGISTERED IN MARYLAND."

(28) Strike all of Section 729.0 and insert new Section 729.0 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the section so repealed, and to read as follows:

"SECTION 729.0. DEPTH OF FOOTINGS. THE MINIMUM DEPTH BELOW FINISHED GRADE FOR ALL FOOTINGS SHALL BE THIRTY INCHES (30"). EXCEPT WHEN ERECTED UPON SOLID ROCK OR WHEN OTHERWISE PROTECTED FROM FROST, FOUNDATION WALLS, PIERS AND OTHER PERMANENT SUPPORTS OF ALL BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES SHALL EXTEND BELOW THE FROST LINE OF THE LOCALITY AND SPREAD POOTINGS OF ADEQUATE SIZE SHALL BE PROVIDED WHEN NECESSARY TO PROPERLY DISTRIBUTE THE LOAD WITHIN THE ALLOWABLE FEARING VALUE OF THE SOIL. OR SUCH